

**[0064]**     ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**[0065]**     A network device includes a port filter, a first logic device, and a second logic device. The port filter receives a data frame and generates first data relating to the data frame. The first logic device generates second data for the received data frame. The second logic device receives the first data and the second data, determines whether the first data contains a valid first priority value, and assigns the valid first priority value to the data frame when the first data contains the valid first priority value. When the first data does not contain a valid first priority value, the second logic device determines whether the second data contains a valid second priority value, and assigns the valid second priority value to the data frame when the second data contains the valid second priority value.